

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-20 (Cancelled)

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): A bodily fluid testing device for obtaining and testing a submicroliter bodily fluid sample, comprising:

a housing defining at least a first aperture;

a lancing device including a needle and a lancet drive including a spring, the lancing device operatively coupled to said housing for obtaining a submicroliter bodily fluid sample by advancing the needle through the first aperture in the housing and piercing a skin surface at a bodily fluid sample location and then withdrawing to provide access to the submicroliter bodily fluid sample by a test strip;

a lancet guiding shoulder coupled with the housing;

a lancet guiding collar coupled around the needle within a mechanical tolerance of about 0.05 mm, and the lancet guiding collar having an outer dimension within a mechanical tolerance of about 0.05 mm, and the lancet guiding collar and lancet guiding shoulder having a mutual clearance of no more than approximately 0.13 mm, thereby providing precision control over puncture site location; and

a mount block coupled with a connector that is coupled with a motor within the housing, the mount block configured for coupling the test strip thereto, and the motor configured for moving an edge of the test strip along a non-linear trajectory such that a bodily fluid receiving portion of the edge of the test strip comes to rest at a center of the submicroliter bodily fluid sample without moving the housing relative to the bodily fluid sample location, and

wherein the bodily fluid testing device is configured such that the housing is placed on the bodily fluid sample location, and then after said lancing and withdrawing of the lancing device, the edge of the test strip moves along the non-linear trajectory to the bodily fluid sample contacting location within a mechanical tolerance of about 0.010 inch of said center of said bodily fluid sample in the plane of the skin surface at the bodily fluid sample location.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The device of claim 21, wherein the lancing device comprises a cutting edge that is aligned with the test strip, although withdrawn following lancing to provide said bodily fluid sample, when the test strip is received in the housing and moved to said center of said bodily fluid sample.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The device of claim 21, wherein the lancing device is operatively coupled to said housing by said spring.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The device of claim 21, wherein the lancing device comprises a body having a first axis, and a sharp operatively connected to the body, wherein the sharp has a second axis that is perpendicular to the first axis.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The device of claim 21, wherein the lancing device comprises a sharp that has at least two points.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The device of claim 21, wherein the lancing device is of a construction sufficient to pierce tissue of a patient.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The device of claim 21, wherein the test strip comprises a side-filled test strip to sample a bodily fluid sample that comprises a submicroliter volume.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The device of claim 21, wherein when the test strip is in the bodily fluid sample-contacting position, a fill channel of the test strip is aligned with the submicroliter bodily fluid sample within 0.005 inches of said center of said bodily fluid sample.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The device of claim 21, wherein the device is configured for the edge of the test strip to travel along said trajectory including 0.03 inches along the bodily fluid sample location.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The device of claim 21, wherein a physiological property that is determined from a captured portion of the bodily fluid sample comprises a glucose level, a carbohydrate level, a hemoglobin level, or a glycated hemoglobin level, or combinations thereof.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The device of claim 21, further comprising a controller operatively coupled to the housing for controlling operation of the lancing device.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The device of claim 21, further comprising an input unit operatively coupled to the housing for operating the lancing device.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): The device of claim 21, further comprising a controller operatively coupled to the housing for controlling movement of the test strip when the test strip is received in the housing.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): The device of claim 21, wherein the trajectory comprises an approach angle of less than 65°.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): The device of claim 34, wherein the trajectory comprises an approach angle of not less than approximately 35°.

Claim 36 (Withdrawn): A method for obtaining and testing a sample from a patient, comprising:

providing an automated device on a test site of a patient, the automated device including a housing and being of a construction sufficient to obtain a sample from the test site by advancing a lancing device through a first aperture in the housing and piercing a sample location, and then withdrawing to provide access to the sample by a test strip, and without moving the housing relative to the sample location, to test the sample for an analyte by moving the test strip, which is coupled with mechanical components including a mount block within the housing, along a trajectory such that a reagent receiving portion of the test strip comes to rest approximately at a center of the sample, and to provide a result of the test, automatically upon activation; and
activating the device.

Claim 37 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 36, wherein the automated device is of a construction sufficient to move a test strip into contact with the sample, automatically upon activation.

Claim 38 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 36, wherein the automated device is of a construction sufficient to pierce the test site and to move a test strip into contact with the sample from the pierced test site, automatically upon activation.

Claim 39 (Withdrawn): A method of obtaining and testing a sample, comprising:

activating an automated device, the automated device including a housing and being of a construction sufficient to obtain a sample, to test the sample for an analyte, and to provide a result of the test, upon activation; and

wherein the activating providing for automatically advancing a lancing device through a first aperture in the housing and piercing a sample location, and then withdrawing to provide access to the sample by a test strip, and without moving the housing relative to the sample, providing for sample testing by moving a test strip, which is coupled with mechanical components including a mount block within the housing, along a trajectory such that a reagent receiving portion of the test strip comes to rest approximately at a center of the sample.

Claim 40 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 39, wherein the sample is blood.

Claim 41 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 39, wherein the analyte is glucose.

Claim 42 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 36, wherein the trajectory comprises an approach angle of less than 65°.

Claim 43 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 42, wherein the trajectory comprises an approach angle of not less than approximately 35°.

Claim 44 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 39, wherein the trajectory comprises an approach angle of less than 65°.

Claim 45 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 44, wherein the trajectory comprises an approach angle of not less than approximately 35°.

Claim 46 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 36, wherein after the test strip is received in the housing, and after said lancing and withdrawing of the lancing device, the test strip is movable from a received position to a sample contacting position within 0.010 inch of said center of said sample.

Claim 47 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 46, wherein when the test strip is in the sample-contacting position, a fill channel of the test strip is substantially aligned with the sample within 0.005 inch of said center of said sample.

Claim 48 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 36, wherein the trajectory comprises a travel distance along a patient's skin of approximately 1 mm.

Claim 49 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 39, wherein after the test strip is received in the housing, and after said lancing and withdrawing of the lancing device, the test strip is movable from a received position to a sample contacting position within 0.010 inch of said center of said sample.

Claim 50 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 49, wherein when the test strip is in the sample-contacting position, a fill channel of the test strip is substantially aligned with the sample within 0.005 inch of said center of said sample.

Claim 51 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 39, wherein the trajectory comprises a travel distance along a patient's skin of approximately 1 mm.

Claim 52 (Previously Presented): The device of claim 21, wherein the test strip is configured to sample a submicroliter bodily fluid sample that comprises a volume of 1/3 microliter.

Claim 53 (Previously Presented): The device of claim 52, wherein the device is configured to sample a submicroliter bodily fluid sample that comprises a diameter of not more than approximately 0.005 inches.

Claim 54 (Previously Presented): The device of claim 21, wherein the device is configured to sample a submicroliter bodily fluid sample that comprises a diameter of not more than approximately 0.005 inches.

Claim 55 (Previously Presented): The device of claim 27, wherein the device is configured to sample a submicroliter bodily fluid sample that comprises a diameter of not more than approximately 0.005 inches.

Claim 56 (Previously Presented): The device of claim 28, wherein the device is configured to sample a submicroliter bodily fluid sample that comprises a diameter of not more than approximately 0.005 inches.

Claim 57 (Previously Presented): The device of claim 21, wherein the bodily fluid testing device is configured to lance and test without application of a vacuum to the bodily fluid sampling location through the first aperture.

Claim 58 (New): The device of claim 21, wherein the lancet guiding collar is concentric with the needle.